

Message Text

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2470

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1695

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE

SUBJECT: GDR WORKERS'S MILITIA ANNIVERSARY

1. GDR LEADERSHIP TURNED OUT IN FORCE SEPTEMBER 29 TO OBSERVE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF CREATION OF WORKER'S MILITIA (KAMPFGRUPPEN). IN EAST BERLIN, HONECKER AND STOPH (WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR SHARING PLATFORM) PRE-SIDED OVER MASSIVE MARCH-BY OF ARMED WORKERS' BRIGADES FROM ALL GDR BEZIRKE, WHILE PROVINCIAL SED LEADERS THROUGHOUT GDR ORGANIZED SIMILAR PARADES OF LOCAL UNITS. HONECKER'S ADDRESS ON OCCASION PRAISED MILITIA FOR ITS PAST CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIME, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF BERLIN WALL ON AUGUST 13, 1961, LAUDED FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICIES OF USSR, CALLED FOR INCREASED VIGILANCE AGAINST PERILS OF "IMPERIALISM", AND PLEDGED GDR SOLIDARITY WITH UNIDAD POPULAR IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FASCIST" FORCES IN CHILE.

2. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT "KAMPFGRUPPEN" UNITS PARADING IN EAST BERLIN WERE ARMED, FRENCH (CHAIRMAN) COMMANDANT
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RELEASED FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THREE ALLIED

COMMANDANTS:

BEGIN TEXT. ON SEPTEMBER 29 ARMED PARAMILITARY UNITS KNOWN AS "KAMPFGRUPPEN BATALLIONEN" AND "HUNDERTSCHAFTEN" ONCE AGAIN PARADED IN THE STREETS OF THE SOVIET SECTOR OF BERLIN UNDER THE PRETEXT OF CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FOUNDING.

THE THREE COMMANDANTS OF THE WESTERN SECTORS TAKE THIS OCCASION TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE REPETITION OF ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN NO CASE CONFERS LEGITIMACY ON THEM.

THEY SOLEMNLY PROTEST THIS NEW VIOLATION OF THE DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF THE CITY AND CALL UPON THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES TO PUT AN END TO SUCH ACTIVITIES. END TEXT.

3. FRENCH POLAD ALSO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF CALL BY SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELLOR BELETSKIY SEPTEMBER 29 (SEPTTEL) TO DRAW HIS ATTENTION TO STATEMENT. PREDICTABLY, BELETSKIY RESPONDED THAT SOVIETS WERE NOT COMPETENT IN THIS MATTER, THAT THERE WAS NO SOVIET SECTOR OF BERLIN, THAT THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR WAS INVOLVED, AND THAT STATE BORDER EXISTED BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BERLIN. FRENCH POLAD REFUTED THESE POINTS, REMINDING BELETSKIY THAT ALLIES STILL CONSIDERED SOVIETS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR SECTOR, PARTICULARLY AS CONCERNS DEMILITARIZATION.KLEIN

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